

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
PALM SPRINGS-SOUTH COAST FIELD OFFICE**

**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
CX Number CA-660-05-17**

DATE: 11-30-2004

TITLE / PROJECT TYPE: Petro Resources
Application for Abandonment of oil wells

CASE FILE / PROJECT NO.: CALA-053735

BLM OFFICE: Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office
690 W. Garnet Avenue, P.O. Box 581260
North Palm Springs, CA 92258-1260

APPLICANT / PROPONENT: Petro Resources Inc.

LOCATION OF PROPOSED ACTION:

T.3N., R.15W., Section 6 well # 04-037-21881
T.3N., R.16W., Section 1 well # 04-037-22065
T.3N., R.16W., Section 1 well# 04-037-22066
T.3N., R.16W., Section 1 well# 04-037-22067
T.3N., R.16W., Section 1 well# 04-037-22068
T.3N., R.16W., Section 1 well# 04-037-22337
T.3N., R.16W., Section 1 well# 04-037-22332
T.3N., R.16W., Section 1 well# 04-037-22334
T.3N., R.16W., Section 1 well# 04-037-22338

LAND USE PLAN CONFORMANCE and Other Regulatory Compliance:

In accordance with Title 43 Code of Federal Regulations(CFR) 1610.5, BLM MS 1617.3 the proposed action is in conformance with The South Coast Resource Management Plan (1994) as amended.

NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION

Under the Mineral Leasing Act, as amended, (30 USC 181) and related authorities in 43 CFR 3160, holders of oil and gas leases have the right to explore for oil and gas deposits, located on public lands, in conformance with lease stipulations and other requirements. The proponent has filed a plan of operations with the Bureau, conforming

to Title 43 CFR 3160, seeking approval for the abandonment of the wells listed above. These wells were used as oil producing wells and are no longer required..

Proposed Action

Petro Resources Inc. proposes the abandonment of well # 04-037-21881 located within the Placerita exploratory area within Los Angeles County, California.

Abandonment Program:

Clean out to effective depth of 1451'

Fill casing with cement plug from 1451' to surface

Cut casing off 5' below grade

Clean location

Well # 04-037-022065

Abandonment Program:

Clean out to effective depth of 1278'

Fill casing with cement plug from 1278' to surface

Cut casing off 5' below grade

Clean location

Well # 04-037-22066

Abandonment Program:

Clean out to effective depth of 1370'

Fill casing with cement plug from 1370' to surface

Cut casing off 5' below grade

Clean location

Well # 04-037-22067

Abandonment Program:

Clean out to effective depth of 1780'

Fill casing with cement plug from 1780' to surface

Cut casing off 5' below grade

Clean location

Well # 04-037-22068

Abandonment Program:

Clean out to effective depth of 1350'

Fill casing with cement plug from 1350' to surface

Cut casing off 5' below grade

Clean location

Well # 04-037-22337

Abandonment Program:

Clean out to effective depth of 1366'

Fill casing with cement plug from 1366' to surface

Cut casing off 5' below grade

Clean location

Well # 04-037-22332

Abandonment Program:

Clean out to effective depth of 1745'

Fill casing with cement plug from 1745' to surface

Cut casing off 5' below grade

Clean location

Well # 04-037-22334

Abandonment Program:

Clean out to effective depth of 1560'

Fill casing with cement plug from 1560' to surface

Cut casing off 5' below grade

Clean location

Well # 04-037-22338

Abandonment Program:

Clean out to effective depth of 1599'

Fill casing with cement plug from 1599' to surface

Cut casing off 5' below grade

Clean location

Restore surface location as required by BLM. This will include removal of the concrete pad, pipe, and miscellaneous debris. The surface area at the well site will then be graded to conform to surrounding contours.

EXCEPTIONS TO CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS

The following exceptions apply to individual actions within categorical exclusions (516 DM 6, 5.4: H (10). Removal of structures and materials of non-historical value, such as abandoned automobiles, fences, buildings, including those built in trespass, and reclamation of the site when little or no disturbance is involved. Environmental documents must be prepared for actions which may:

DM#	Exception	Comments
2.1	Have significant adverse effects on public health or safety.	None
2.2	Have adverse effects on such unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources, park, recreation or refuge lands, wilderness areas, wild or scenic rivers, sole or principal drinking water	none

	aquifers, prime farmlands, wetlands, floodplains, or ecologically significant or critical areas, including those listed on the Department's National Register of Natural Landmarks.	
2.3	Have highly controversial environmental effects.	none
2.4	Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.	none
2.5	Establish a precedent for future actions or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.	none
2.6	Be directly related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.	none
2.7	Have adverse effects on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.	none
2.8	Have adverse effects on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have adverse effects on designated critical habitat for these species.	None
2.9	Require compliance with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act.	none
2.10	Threaten to violate a Federal, State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.	none

PREPARED BY: Claude Kirby

REVIEWED BY: _____ Date _____

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
PALM SPRINGS-SOUTH COAST FIELD OFFICE**

**DECISION RECORD
CA-066-05-17**

NAME of PROJECT: Petro Resources Inc.

DECISION: It is my decision to approve the proposed action as described in Categorical Exclusion (CX) number CA-660-05-17 . I find this action conforms to 516 Departmental Manual (DM) 6, 5.4, H (10) with no exceptions. I further find this action in conformance with applicable land use plans and that it will not cause unnecessary or undue degradation. Conditions of approval, if attached, are incorporated by reference as the decision of the Bureau of Land Management regarding this action. A copy of this Decision Record and attendant conditions of approval shall be in the possession of the on-site operator during all undertakings approved herein.

APPEALS:

This decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations at Title 43 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 4, and the information provided in Form 1842-1 (enclosed). If an appeal is taken, your notice of appeal must be filed in the Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of the Interior, 690 West Garnet Avenue, P.O. Box 581260, North Palm Springs, California 92258, within 30 days from receipt of this decision. The appellant has the burden of showing that the decision appealed from is in error.

If you wish to file a petition for a stay of the effectiveness of this decision during the time that your appeal is being reviewed by the Board, pursuant to Title 43 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 4, Subpart E, the petition for a stay must accompany your notice of appeal. A petition for a stay is required to show sufficient justification based on the standards listed below. Copies of the notice of appeal and petition for a stay must also be submitted to each party named in this decision and to the Interior Board of Land Appeals and to the appropriate Office of the Solicitor (see 43 CFR 4.413) at the same time the original documents are filed with this office. If you request a stay, you have the burden of proof to demonstrate that a stay should be granted.

Standards for Obtaining a Stay

Except as otherwise provided by law or other pertinent regulations, a petition for a stay of a decision pending appeal shall show sufficient justification based on the following standards:

- (1) The relative harm to the parties if the stay is granted or denied,

- (2) The likelihood of the appellant's success on the merits,
- (3) The likelihood of immediate and irreparable harm if the stay is not granted, and
- (4) Whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

If no appeal is taken, this decision constitutes final administrative action of this Department as it affects the mining claim(s). No appeal, protest or petition for reconsideration will be entertained from this decision after the appeal period has expired.

APPROVED BY: _____ **Date** _____

Gail Acheson
Field Manager
Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office
Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Department of the Interior
690 W. Garnet Avenue; P.O. Box 581260
North Palm Springs, CA 92258-1260